

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 09551 291655Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01
DOE-15 SOE-02 DOEE-00 OES-07 SS-15 SP-02 PM-05
NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIE-00
SSO-00 INRE-00 DODE-00 SSM-03 NEAE-00 /083 W
-----024156 291713Z /43

O 291551Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7318
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 09551

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, PBOR, EG, IS, US
SUBJ: ISRAELI PRODUCTION AT ALMA FIELD

REF: (A) STATE 79925, (B) TEL AVIV 4157

1. GLEN TAYLOR, AMOCO EGYPT'S VICE PRESIDENT, CALLED
EMBASSY MARCH 29 TO PASS ON INFORMATION REGARDING
PRODUCTION FROM ALMA FIELD. TAYLOR SAID HE HAD PROVIDED
SAME INFORMATION TO AMOCO CHICAGO LATE MARCH 28, WHICH -
APPARENTLY FORMED BASIS OF LANCASTER'S REPORT TO
DEPARTMENT (REF A). ACCORDING TAYLOR, TANKER FIRST
SPOTTED AT ALMA PLATFORM MARCH 23 AND DEPARTED MARCH 24.
TANKER RETURNED MARCH 26 AND AS OF NOON MARCH 28 WAS
STILL ANCHORED AT PLATFORM. TAYLOR EMPHASIZED THAT
VISIBILITY IS POOR SO AMOCO OBSERVERS CANNOT TELL SIZE -
OF TANKER OR IF TANKER CURRENTLY AT ALMA LOCATION
IS SAME AS ONE SIGHTED MARCH 23. FLARE, HOWEVER, HAS
BEEN BURNING WITHOUT BLACK SMOKE FOR PAST FEW DAYS
WHICH INDICATES SEPARATORS ARE WORKING AND OIL BEING
WITHDRAWN INTO TANKER. THERE IS NO PERMANENT TANKER
STATIONED AT PLATFORM, MEANING PRODUCTION MUST BE
STOPPED DURING TANKER'S ABSENCE.

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2. REGARDING PRODUCTION, TAYLOR OPINED THAT FIELD NOT
PRODUCING VERY WELL IF TWO WELLS ARE OPERATING AT ONLY
10,000 BPD, AS INDICATED REFTELS. (FYI: AVERAGE PRO-
DUCTION FROM GULF OF SUEZ WELLS IS 8-12,000 BPD. END FYI)

3. AS AUTHORIZED PARA 3, REFTEL A, WE INFORMED EGPC

CHAIRMAN LEITHY OF WASHINGTON POST REPORT. LEITHY
WAS AWARE OF PRODUCTION START FROM AMOCO, BUT DECLINED
TO GIVE HINT ABOUT GOE REACTION. WE ARE CHECKING
FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCES FOR STATUS OF LETTER TO UNSYG.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 29 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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